

## Instructions for Cantinea Procla

As an introduction to conversing and navigating in the VRoma online virtual environment and to "living as a Roman in VRoma," we are going to enact a role-playing scenario. Instead of connecting with your own VRoma character, you are going to connect as a lower-class Roman based on a real person who once lived in the city of Rome, a person known to us now only through one or more inscriptions but once a living, breathing Roman.

The characters have been assigned at random to the members of the class. Your character will be **Cantinea Procla**, a priestess of Isis. Connect with the special username and password that your teacher will give to you.

You will enter VRoma in your special location (in this case the **Temple of Isis** in the Sanctuary of Isis and Serapis on the Campus Martius, which is your character's "home"). Click on the icon for Cantinea Procla and read the description carefully, including all the links, one of which will show you the actual inscription on which your character is based. Below the description, you will see that you are carrying a Scroll for Cantinea Procla. Click this and read your specific instructions for the game. Others will be able to see and read your description, but not this scroll. Before your class acts out the scenario, you should explore all sections of the Sanctuary of Isis and Serapis, including the two courtyards and the temples of Isis and Serapis, carefully reading all the links so that you will have sufficient information about these two Egyptian deities and their worship. This will prepare you to carry out your tasks (described in your scroll, the text of which is also included below).

---

### Scenario:

The *praefectus annonae* has invited you to be part of a group of Romans who will accompany a young woman from the province of Baetica, Coelia Mascellina, on a tour of various locations in Rome. She has recently taken over her mother's business of exporting olive oil and wine from Baetica, and the prefect wants to make sure she enjoys this tour so that he can negotiate a favorable contract with her to supply olive oil for the troops. He is counting on you to introduce her to the part of Rome you know best.

### Your Tasks:

- 1) Reveal your personality to Coelia and the others in the group as you converse and move about the city. You, Cantinea Procla, are a serious and devout person, very well educated in the history and rituals of Isis but rather narrowly focused on that religion. You are a beautiful woman and dutiful wife, but you have never had children. Though you are gentle and non-judgmental, you have a hard time seeing the point of view of others who enjoy the more frivolous delights of life.
- 2) Take the group to the Temple of Isis; the quickest way to get there is for everybody to type **@go Temple of Isis**. Explain a little about the goddess and her worship, then show them the other parts of the Sanctuary. Pick out the most interesting and relevant facts about each part of the sanctuary to highlight for the group (and tell them which links in each description they should click). Remember that you want them to understand and sympathize with your devotion to these deities rather than viewing them as foreign interlopers into old-fashioned Roman religion.